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TAGS: CS, US, NU, HO, PREL

SUBJECT: REPORTED SHULTZ STATEMENT ON COSTA RICAN AND HONDURAN ROLE IN SUPPLYING NICARAGUAN RESISTANCE

- 1. LOCAL PRESS ACCOUNTS IN COSTA RICA AND HONDURAS ARE ATTRIBUTING TO SECRETARY SHULTZ THE STATEMENT THAT PROBLEMS IN CONVEYING U.S. ASSISTANCE TO THE ARMED ANTI-SANDINISTAS THROUGH COSTA RICA AND HONDURAS HAVE BEEN RESOLVED.
- FOLLOWING IS UNEDITED TEXT OF THE QUESTION THE SECRETARY WAS ASKED BY SENATOR DODD BEFORE THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE ON FEBRUARY 27 AND THE REPLY HE MADE.
- --SENATOR DODD: I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW, FOR INSTANCE, WHY IT IS THAT THAT AID THAT WE DID SEND DOWN HAS NOT GOTTEN THERE. ISN'T IT, IN FACT, THAT THE HONDURAN GOVERNMENT DOES NOT WANT TO PROVIDE IT, DOES NOT WANT TO PROVIDE THE AVENUES OF ACCESS? ISN'T THAT TRUE?
- -- SECRETARY SHULTZ: THAT HAS BEEN A PROBLEM FOR US.
- --SENATOR DODD: WHY IS THAT A PROBLEM? WE ARE PROVIDING HONDURAS WITH DOLLARS 250 MILLION IN AID.
- --SECRETARY SHULTZ: THE REASON WHY COUNTRIES HESITATE (AND THIS IS A GENERAL LESSON FOR US) IS THAT THEY ARE SITTING THERE, NEXT DOOR, AND THERE IS A VERY LARGE AMOUNT OF MILITARY POWER ARRAYED AGAINST THEM, AND SO IT IS A PROBLEM FOR THEM ON THEIR OWN BORDERS. WE HAVE GOTTEN OUR SUPPLY PROBLEM STRAIGHTENED OUT. IT WAS MIXED UP IN SOME OTHER WAYS AS WELL, AS YOU PROBABLY KNOW.
- 3. FOR SAN JOSE: USING ABOVE, DEPARTMENT REQUESTS AMBASSADOR TO CORRECT THE RECORD WITH FOREIGN MINISTER GUTIERREZ (SAN JOSE 02174). WHITEHEAD END OF MESSAGE UNCLASSIFIED

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